

**Remarks**

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

As requested, the title of the application has been changed.

The specification and abstract have been amended to place them in a more traditional U.S. format.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 6-10 and 12-16 contain allowable subject matter. The subject matter of allowable claim 6 has been incorporated in claim 1 and thus claim 1 and its dependent claims are believed to be allowable. Allowable claim 7 has been written in self-standing independent form and thus this claim and its dependent claims are believed to be allowable. Allowable claim 12 has been written in self-standing independent form and thus this claim and its dependent claims are believed to be allowable.

Amendments of a formal nature have been made to some of the claims. For example, references to “optional” writing and write devices have been deleted from claims 7, 14, 15 and 16 and presented in new claims 17-20. Claims 14, 15 and 16 have also been amended to refer to methods of using a data storage medium. The numerals referring to examples of various claim elements in the illustrative, non-limiting embodiments described in the specification have been deleted. These reference numerals do not in any way limit the scope of the claims.

While not acquiescing in the rejection of claims 1-5 and 11 as allegedly being anticipated by Yokoyama *et al.*, this rejection is believed to be moot in light of the above amendments.

New claims 21-28 have been added. The subject matter of these new claims is fully supported by the original disclosure and no new matter is added. Claims 21-24 depend from claim 7 and claims 25-28 depend from claim 12. These claims are believed to be allowable at least because of these dependencies.

LIEBER *et al.*


Application No. 10/030,472

Response to Office Action dated October 14, 2004

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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### Abstract of the Disclosure

An example A data storage medium includes ~~has~~ an optical information carrier which comprises a polymer carrier ~~(1)~~, which is set up to store information, and, additionally, a layer ~~(2)~~. The layer ~~(2)~~ comprises a dye and can be optically changed locally for the purpose of storing information.

~~(Figure 1)~~